



201 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Tel: (612) 928-6100
Fax: (612) 454-2744

AAN.com

President

Terrence L. Cascino, MD, FAAN
Rochester, Minnesota

President Elect

Ralph L. Sacco, MD, MS, FAHA, FAAN
Miami, Florida

Vice President

James C. Stevens, MD, FAAN
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Secretary

Aaron E. Miller, MD, FAAN
New York, New York

Treasurer

Lisa M. Shulman, MD, FAAN
Baltimore, Maryland

Past President

Timothy A. Pedley, MD, FAAN
New York, New York

Directors

Sarah M. Benish, MD, FAAN
Edina, Minnesota

Neil A. Busis, MD, FAAN
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Charles C. Flippin II, MD, FAAN
Los Angeles, California

Carlayne E. Jackson, MD, FAAN
San Antonio, Texas

Elaine C. Jones, MD, FAAN
Bristol, Rhode Island

Janis Miyasaki, MD, MEd, FRCPC, FAAN
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

John C. Morris, MD, FAAN
Saint Louis, Missouri

Stefan M. Pulst, MD, FAAN
Salt Lake City, Utah

Thomas R. Vidic, MD, FAAN
Elkhart, Indiana

Ex Officio Directors

Orly Avitzur, MD, FAAN
*Chair, Medical Economics and
Management Committee
Tarrytown, New York*

Gregory D. Cascino, MD, FAAN
*Chair, Member Engagement Committee
Rochester, Minnesota*

Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN
*Editor-in-Chief, Neurology®
Rochester, New York*

Nicholas E. Johnson, MD
*Chair, Government Relations Committee
Salt Lake City, Utah*

Ex Officio, Non-voting Director

Catherine M. Rydell, CAE
*Executive Director/CEO
Minneapolis, Minnesota*

May 18, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
The Honorable Frank Pallone
The Honorable Joe Pitts
The Honorable Gene Green
The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
The Honorable Diana DeGette
United States House of Representatives
Energy & Commerce Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The American Academy of Neurology, representing more than 28,000 neurologists and clinical neuroscience professionals dedicated to promoting the highest quality patient-centered neurologic care, applauds the inclusion of H.R. 292, The Advancing Research for Neurological Diseases Act in the 21st Century Cures legislation.

Currently one in six Americans suffers from a neurologic condition, including at least 500,000 with Parkinson's disease and approximately 400,000 with multiple sclerosis (MS), yet our nation lacks a coordinated system to collect and analyze data on these diseases.

Giving the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the ability to track the incidence and prevalence of neurological disorders is critical to understanding the epidemiological pathways of these diseases. This will significantly benefit neurologic research by allowing more informed analysis of genetic and environmental risk factors, which will increase the likelihood of discovering new effective disease treatments and even cures.

We applaud you for including this important legislation in CURES and thank you for taking such important leadership roles on this critical issue. Please contact Mike Amery at mamery@aan.com or (202) 506-7468 if you have questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Terrance A. Cascino, MD, FAAN
President, American Academy of Neurology

2016 AAN Annual Meeting
Vancouver Convention Centre - Vancouver, BC, Canada
April 15–April 21, 2016

2017 AAN Annual Meeting
Boston Convention & Exhibits Center - Boston, MA
April 22–April 29, 2017